

## **Assembly Joint Resolution No. 60**

### **RESOLUTION CHAPTER 89**

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 60—Relative to the 940th Air Refueling Wing, Beale Air Force Base, California.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 9, 1998.]

#### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

AJR 60, Richter. 940th Air Refueling Wing.

This measure would memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States to endorse, support, and fund the 940th Air Refueling Wing as the next KC-135 unit to convert to KC-135R model aircraft.

WHEREAS, The United States Air Force Reserve operational unit, which is now the 940th Air Refueling Wing (940th ARW), has been in the Sacramento Valley since 1963; and

WHEREAS, The 940th ARW, which has been located at various times at Mather Air Force Base, McClellan Air Force Base, and Beale Air Force Base, has a proud tradition of supporting the nation's defense since the 940th ARW's activation; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the 940th ARW is to perform global air refueling and strategic airlift operations, which allow other aircraft to fly far beyond their normal range by overcoming the restrictions imposed by limited onboard fuel capacity; and

WHEREAS, The 940th ARW has participated in many conventional and humanitarian efforts that were undertaken by the Department of Defense and the United Nations, including rebuilding schools in Honduras, providing food and medical supplies to Somalia, and deployment in support of democracy in Haiti; and

WHEREAS, The 940th ARW was the first Air Force Reserve unit to establish ground operations in the Middle East as a part of Desert Shield when it deployed hundreds of United States military reservists to Saudi Arabia in August 1991, just days after the invasion of Kuwait; and

WHEREAS, The 940th ARW continues to support peace in Bosnia by supporting joint service missions and conducting peacekeeping operations in the skies above the former Yugoslavia; and

WHEREAS, The 940th ARW flies KC-135E model aircraft equipped with TF-33 engines that are reaching the end of their 10-year to 15-year life span; and

WHEREAS, These engines are of 1960's technology and do not meet contemporary international or United States noise, emission, and fuel efficiency standards; and

WHEREAS, Conversion to the KC-135R model engine would provide each aircraft with 26 percent more thrust on takeoff and 18 percent improved fuel consumption, offering increased offload capacity of 20,000 pounds of fuel; and

WHEREAS, The KC-135R model engine exceeds in-flight noise standards and offers a 69 percent reduction in in-flight engine emissions; and

WHEREAS, These engines are widely used in the commercial sector, making repair and parts available worldwide; and

WHEREAS, The 940th ARW is the only air refueling wing positioned in the central west coast that is capable of conducting or hosting “bridge” refueling operations for global deployment of United States Armed Forces to the Pacific region; and

WHEREAS, Conversion to the KC-135R aircraft with the multiport refueling system would allow the 940th ARW to cost-effectively support United States Marine Corps and United States Navy aircraft that are based at El Centro, Lemoore, and Miramar, California, and at Fallon, Nevada, as well as other locations worldwide; and

WHEREAS, The 940th ARW has been moved from Mather AFB to McClellan AFB due to Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC); and

WHEREAS, Conversion to the KC-135R model engine would ensure that the 940th ARW remains a viable-force structure asset and would preserve, for the Department of Defense and the nation, the skills of its 950 members, including 185 full-time employees of the unit who live in the central valley, including Sacramento, El Dorado, Yolo, Yuba, Sutter, Placer, and San Joaquin Counties; and

WHEREAS, Conversion to the KC-135R model engine would protect the 940th ARW’s \$22,000,000 contribution to the local economy in the form of maintaining salaries and operating expenses; and

WHEREAS, The 940th ARW creates an estimated 300 secondary jobs; and

WHEREAS, The loss of the 940th ARW would have a significant negative impact on the region’s economy; and

WHEREAS, Resource limitations may not allow the United States Air Force Reserve to fund the conversion of both of its remaining KC-135E units to the KC-135R aircraft, since the Air Force Reserve Command has earmarked funding for the conversion of four additional aircraft, but has not decided which of the two remaining KC-135E model units will be converted; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly,* That the Legislature memorializes the President and the Congress of the United States to endorse, support, and fund the 940th ARW as the next KC-135 unit to convert to KC135-R model aircraft, because that conversion would ensure that the 940th ARW remains a relevant, capable, and necessary part of the United States Air Force mission in the 21st century and a viable and productive asset to the

Department of Defense, the State of California, and the nation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to each member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

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